



DECEMBER, 96

# THE GARZETTE



VOLUME 3, ISSUE 13



## HAPPY HOLIDAYS

### GARS Ham Of The Month Mark Kozma, KD3GC

*By Karl Phillips, N4JON*

This month's **GARS** Ham of the Month is Mark Kozma - KD3GC. Mark grew up in Connecticut and Ohio, attending the 1<sup>st</sup> through the 5<sup>th</sup> grades in Stanford, Connecticut, where he was born and finishing his early education in Bay Village, Ohio. Mark graduated from high school in Doylestown, Pennsylvania at Central Bucks West High School.

Mark first got interested in amateur radio around 1967, when a friend obtained a set of walkie-talkies. The only problem was he and his friend couldn't find a local ham to be their "Elmer". Back in those days there wasn't quite as many of us as there are now. When Mark moved to Doylestown he discovered a neighbor had an SWL station set up and he soon got interested in

that, collecting many QSL cards in the process. He soon got his SWL friend interested in amateur radio. Still, there were no local hams around that they could learn the hobby from. Through all this, Mark's interest in ham radio remained.

In 1980, Mark joined the Air Force. One of his duty stations was Moody Air Force Base near Valdosta, in South Georgia.

In 1985, Mark saw a copy of CQ Magazine on the newsstand as was shocked and amazed at the changes that had taken place in amateur radio since his earlier days of interest in the hobby. Gone were the Hallcrafters, Johnson Viking and Collins companies, replaced by Yaesu, Kenwood and others. After his

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### The President's Pen

*By Howie Gould, W4NVF*

Thanksgiving has come and gone, our year-end Christmas party is coming soon and before you know it folks, the 1997 New Year will be in full swing.

What can we say we did in 1996? We had a pretty fruitful year as clubs go and reflecting back over the past 12 months we can say that we are ready for the New Year challenges ahead.

In 1996 we put two remote links on the air

that work. We may have the third remote on the air before the New Year starts. We procured two more county sites for future use. We filled the propane generator up with fuel, a special thanks to Dean Schneider, KD4RUJ and folks at Gas, Inc. in Lawrenceville for the donation. We fixed the transfer switch so that we can go on full emergency power when

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## THE GARZETTE

THE GARZETTE is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, submit items in ASCII text format or Microsoft Word format by email to [ichapman@intergate.net](mailto:ichapman@intergate.net) or by posting a private message on the SA BBS (770) 903-6789, to Ike Chapman in the GARS conference. Use the Save Attached command and mark the security to receiver only. Art can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted on an IBM formatted disk or via email as a uuencoded file attachment.

Contact the editor for other format compatibility or other means of transfer. Deadline for submissions is the first of each month.

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My thanks to all of them for their help in producing THE GARZETTE.

All correspondence relating to articles posted in THE GARZETTE or for information concerning advertisement rates for THE GARZETTE should be directed to the following address:

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♦♦♦

## Montly Meeting Minutes November, 1996

By Bill Ahls, KE4EIH

GARS Secretary

In attendance: President Howie Gould, W4NVF; Vice President Larry Osborne, KD4QFD; Secretary Bill Ahls, KE4EIH; Treasurer Randy Drescher, K4HS; Activities Manager Marty Fowler, KE4MLH; News Letter Editor Ike Chapman, KE4GYM; and Membership Manager David Adcock, KA4KKF.

The meeting was called to order by President Gould on November 17, 1996, at 19:12 local time at the Central Baptist Church in Lawrenceville.

Introductions were limited to allow more time for the Skywarn Program, however a total of 105 persons signing the meeting log.

The Skywarn Program and training were presented by Barry Gooden from the National Weather Service. The program is the training for all that signed up at the conclusion of the evening as a weather spotter. This is the first training for Gwinnett County Emergency Communications Group (GCECG) supported by GARS and part of the Skywarn network. Skywarn nets will be second and fourth Mondays at 9:00 PM beginning November 25. Barry Gooden presented video tape and slides on the need for training spotter and the need for human element to complement the technology available today for severe weather warning systems. Standard spotter reports include who you are, what is going on, and where you are located. The transitions of the seasons generate the most severe weather with spring, then fall, normally generating the most activity. The numbers for spotter only calls are 770-489-9629 or toll free 888-529-5300.

Randy Drescher, K4HS, presented the treasurers report and

current GARS checking balance which was approved by the membership.

The minutes for the September meeting were approved as published in the GARZETTE.

Suzanne Farr had a Christmas party reminder: at Best Western Falcon Inn in Suwannee, December 20 with a 7:30 PM registration and 8:00 PM eating for \$25 couples and \$15 individuals. Suzanne added the newest GARS club apparel is name tags.

Announcement for Johnny Fearon, W4WKP at Piedmont Hospital had everyone's wish for a speedy recovery.

David Adcock, KA4KKF presented three applicants for membership in GARS. A motion was made and seconded to accept the applicants as presented and passed without opposition. {See page 9 for the list of the new GARS members.}

The meeting was adjourned at 22:45 local time by President Gould.

♦♦♦

### Random Ramblings

"I'm out here just meandering through the tunnels of life."

>>> Bill Brandon, KR4KT

"The conception of two people living together for twenty-five years without having a cross word suggests a lack of spirit only to be admired in sheep."

>>> Alan Patrick Herbert



## GARS Schedules New Classes

By Ike Chapman, KE4GYM

The schedule for the next round of license classes sponsored by **GARS** has been finalized.

The next codeless Technician class will be offered at the Central Gwinnett Community School beginning on Tuesday, January 21, 1997 and running for eight weeks. Kevin McClure, KE4HFN and Jack Herndon, KS4LS will teach the class. The text for the class will be Now You're Talking available at Radio Shack and HRO.

A General Class license course will be taught by John Veach, KE4D beginning on Tuesday, January 21, 1997 as well. This course will also run for eight weeks as part of the Central Gwinnett Community School. The course material will be the ARRL General Class License Manual and the FCC Part 97 rule book. Both books are available at HRO.

Frank Deak, AF4Y will conduct a Morse code class beginning on Monday, January 20, 1997 at the Central Gwinnett Community School. The class will start at 0 wpm and work up from there.

To register for any of these classes, call the Gwinnett County Community School at (770) 963-8651. There will be a \$20 fee charged by the school for each of these classes.

For further information on the specific classes contact the instructors: Kevin McClure, KE4HFN, (770)330-0246; Jack Herndon, KS4LS, (770) 995-0438; John Veach, KE4D, (770) 614-1513; and Frank Deak, AF4Y, (770) 978-6546.



### COME JOIN US AT THE GARS HOLIDAY PARTY

Friday, December 20  
Falcon Inn, Suwanee  
Registration at 7:30  
Dinner at 8:00

**GARS** Ham Of The  
Year Award  
**GARS** Service Awards

Dancing with music  
provided by  
Kevin McClure, KF4HFN



Tickets:  
\$15 per person  
\$25 per couple

Contact Suzanne Farr  
at (770) 279-8711 for  
more information and  
tickets.

### 1996-1997

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Frank Deak, AF4Y (770)978-6546





## Rookie Radio Notes

*By Ike Chapman, KE4GYM*

**GARS** provides a telephone patch on its 2 meter repeater as a service to the club members. From time to time, especially with a club that grows as fast as we do, we like to publish the guidelines for use of the phone patch.

When you join **GARS** you should receive as part of your membership information, the codes for using the phone patch and a speed dial number if any are available. We are limited to 200 speed dial slots in the repeater's present configuration so it is not possible to provide all of our members with one. By the way, if you currently have a speed dial number assigned to you (look on your newsletter label SD=xxxx) and you don't use it, please let Howie Gould, W4NF know so that he can reassign that particular slot.

Okay, on to the show, as I was saying, you should have received the repeater phone patch codes when you joined **GARS**. But if you have not or have misplaced yours, please get in touch with our membership chairman David Adcock, KA4KKF (see page 3 for his phone number) or any member of the executive committee.

For purposes of this article we will assume that the code to activate the phone patch is 123 and the code to close the phone patch is 456. We will also pretend that my speed dial number is 789 and that the code for 911 phone calls is 000.

Prior to making any phone patch, please listen for a few minutes to make sure that a conversation is not in progress on the repeater. Also remember that you cannot use the phone patch to conduct any business or make any calls from which you derive a financial interest (see FCC Part 97.113.a.3). This means that you cannot call your office and tell them you are stuck in traffic and will be

late, or that you're in the parking lot and need someone to come open the door.

The **GARS** executive committee has decided that only calls of a personal nature should be made on the phone patch. While it is within the bounds of Part 97 to make a call and order a pizza, **GARS** has decided that this is not an appropriate use of the repeater of the phone patch. You should also make anyone aware that you call that you are on amateur radio so that certain prohibited language is not used (see FCC Part 97 113.a.4).

Once you've determined that repeater is clear for a patch or you've asked those involved in a conversation on the repeater for a break in their conversation to make a patch you will need to identify that you are going to be making a call. I would do that by keying my microphone and saying "KE4GYM accessing the auto patch" or something similar. Please note that the control operators for the repeater have been asked to terminate any phone patch that is made without the station first identifying himself/herself (see page 3 for a list of the **GARS** control ops).

After I've identified myself, I key my microphone and punch in the code to activate the repeater and the phone number that I'm calling. For example, if I were calling home I'd punch in 123 (the phone patch code) and 3398123 (my home number). I then would release the microphone PTT button and wait until my call is answered. After the call is answered I make sure that the person on the other end knows I'm on the phone patch and proceed with my call. Calls are limited to three minutes and as the call is about to time out you will hear a series of beeps over the repeater. After I finish my call, I

bring down the phone patch using the code provided (456 in our example). I will hear the repeater announce "phone patch clear" and I once again identify myself by saying "KE4GYM clear of the patch" or something similar.

If I was going to call my home and use the speed dial I follow the same procedures, as above, but instead of using the access code to bring up the phone patch I'd only punch in my speed dial number. So in this case I'd key my microphone, identify myself, "KE4GYM accessing the phone patch", and punch in my speed dial number 789 and release the microphone. I would proceed with my call as above and then bring down the patch in the same manner as above.

The **GARS** phone patch also will allow you to contact the Gwinnett County 911 emergency dispatch directly. If you are outside of the county and need to contact the 911 center for that county, the Gwinnett County 911 operators will connect you to the appropriate dispatch center. An important point to remember in making a 911 call on the repeater is that the **GARS** executive committee has decided on a set of guidelines. If the situation you are going to report is not important enough for you to stop and render assistance, then it is not important enough for you to use the 911 phone patch to report it. In other words, if you pass an accident don't call the 911 center on the phone patch and say "I just passed an accident back there". The 911 dispatchers are already swamped with calls of that nature from cellular phone users. When calling in an accident you will need to be ready report the following information: where you are you

*(Continued on page 5)*



## Rookie Radio Notes

(Continued from page 4)

located, the street you're on and the closest cross street or mile marker; the direction of travel; any injuries involved; a description of the vehicles involved.

To use the 911 patch, again identify yourself as with the calls above, depress your PTT button and keyin the phone patch code, in our example, 000. Once the 911 operator answers identify yourself as an amateur radio operator calling from a mobile radio and then proceed to provide him/her with the information requested. Once the call is completed, bring down the phone patch as discussed above and again identify yourself.

All of the phone patch codes provided to you by **GARS** are done as a service to all members of the club. This information should not be passed on to any amateur radio operator that is not a member of the club and should not be discussed on the air under any circumstances. If you have any questions about the use of the phone patch or the use of the repeater in general, please contact any member of the **GARS** executive committee or the control operators listed on page 3.

### Random Ramblings

"The whole problem with the world is that fools and fanatics are always so certain of themselves, but wiser people so full of doubts."

>>> Bertrand Russell

"It is better to have a permanent income than to be fascinating."

>>> Oscar Wilde

## Thoughts on Tuesday Night Code Practice

By Don Button, AJ1T

Cheryl McClure, AE4HN, is due an awful lot of credit for her consistent Tuesday night code practice sessions. These sessions have been going on for at least a year now, and hopefully, they have resulted in at least a few amateurs upgrading their licenses.

I have offered to help Cheryl on alternating weeks to relieve some of her schedule burden. In so doing, I would like to offer some comments and to ask some general questions of our listeners.

First, my format is slightly different than Cheryl's. Perhaps this will add to variety and present a different "slant" on copying code. My sessions are tape-recorded transmissions from W1AW at ARRL headquarters. These code practice sessions are VERY easily received on 80 and 40 meters several times each day. Their signals are very strong, and can be received with even a minimal antenna. The W1AW code practice sessions alternate between "fast" and "slow" code practice on different days. My taped sessions are extracted from the slow practice, which starts at 5 wpm, and increases in speed to 7 1/2, 10, 13, and 15 wpm. The W1AW sessions are longer than we can really use on the repeater, so I use only a portion of each speed segment. This limits each speed setting to five or six minutes of plain text.

During each recording, I use a narrow audio filter to reduce interference and background noise. However, as you listen to the tapes, you will definitely notice that they contain some signal fading, and, occasionally, static or noise. This may add to the challenge of copying it, but, these are real world conditions that you will encounter during routine HF operating!

Please let me know if you like this method.

Also, I have chosen the speed settings merely because this is the order in which W1AW sends them already. Perhaps you would like another speed added? Or perhaps you would like more time spent at 5 WPM, or 13 WPM? W1AW sends about ten minutes of text at 5 and 13 WPM, so I can add more time to these segments quite easily. If you would like this, please let me know.

Another important point is that as far as I concerned, these practice sessions are NOT a competition in any way except one. The ONLY person you are competing with is YOURSELF! When I ask for someone to read back a particular segment of text, I don't care if you copied just a few words or sentences. Please offer to read it back anyway. It should make no difference to you if another person copied more of it, or even copied it perfectly. The only goal here is to better yourself, and, if that is accomplished even in a small way, then the time was well spent.

A final point is that I realize that there may be some unlicensed listeners out there who cannot read the text back. Obviously this does limit your participation, and certainly that is understandable. Keep plugging away, though! You are just the people who will get the applause at the next **GARS** meeting during introductions when you show up with your first license!

♦♦♦





## GARS + BSA = JOTA

By Bill Ahls, KE4EIH

The 39<sup>th</sup> annual Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA) was held on October 19, 1996. JOTA is an annual event sponsored by the World Bureau of the World Organization of the Scout Movement bringing together scouting and amateur radio. It is always held during the third full weekend of October. This year in Gwinnett County, Georgia the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society and the Boy Scouts of Alcovy District Northeast Georgia Council sponsored the county level event for the first time. We plan to repeat this activity next year. This year's event included two HF stations, VHF, packet and CW introduction.

We were at the Lawrenceville Methodist Church campgrounds for a breezy and cold Saturday from 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM. We had scouts on the air and making contacts beginning at 8:00 AM. We made contacts in 25 states and Canada. We heard Europe and South America. The scouts exchanged information over radio with the donation of **GARS** member's time and equipment. Generally, the exchanges included typical information such as name, location, scout rank, hobbies, and sports. Some exchanges may lead to long-lasting pen pal friendships and the exchange of photos, badges, pins, and patches. We had over 150 scouts this year with about a dozen radio amateurs involved. Interest in radio for these scouts and scout leaders is that 121 of them would like to work on their radio merit badge and 12 adults and 32 youths would participate in an amateur radio class.

We would like to thank the following **GARS** members for their participation:

Bill Ahls, KE4EIH  
Howie Gould, W4NVF  
David Adcock, KA4KKF  
Eddie Foust, WD4JEM

Johnny Fearon, W4WKP  
Carter Wood KF4HLF  
Don Button, AJ1T  
Larry Osborne, KD4QFD  
Ron Langston, WE5O  
Marty Fowler, KE4MLH  
Mark Kozma, KD3GC  
Kevin McClure KF4HFN  
Paul Ahls, KF4BML  
Lexan Anderson, KF4KJO  
John Anderson, KF4HMO  
Lee Flack KD4HPD  
Mary Ann Flack, KE4AXE  
Don Ray, KA4SFG  
Rick Morris, KD4VOJ  
Ike Chapman, KE4GYM  
Carter Wood, KF4HLF  
David Schultz, KT4NK  
Larson Watts, KF4HLH  
Buddy Menshew, KE4YZS

We thank Chick-fil-a for the donated coupons and cups for the Scout Jamboree-on-the-air. Next time hot coffee or chocolate for the volunteers!



### Random Ramblings

"There must be more to life than having everything."

>>> Maurice Sendak

"Why is it that our memory is good enough to retain the least triviality that happens to us, and yet not good enough to recollect how often we have told it to the same person?"

>>> La Rochefoucauld

"When everyone is somebody, then no one's anybody."

>>> W. S. Gilbert

"In archaeology you uncover the unknown. In diplomacy you cover the known."

>>> Thomas Pickering

## Notes From The ARRL

*The following items are taken from the "ARRL Letter" distributed by the American Radio Relay League.*

### W1AW Schedule Change

Effective January 1, 1997, W1AW will discontinue its Tuesday and Wednesday morning code practice and bulletin schedules. Beginning January 1, 1997, the Tuesday and Wednesday schedule will begin at 2100 UTC. This change affects the Tuesday and Wednesday morning schedules only and is being initiated as part of a reallocation of resources for routine station maintenance. (The W1AW schedule will appear in January 1997 QST on page 104.)

### New ATV Altitude Record Set

Tom O'Hara, W6ORG, reports: It looks like Mike Henkowski, KC6CCC, owns the ATV altitude record after a rocket launch Saturday, November 23, at Black Rock, Nevada. His 2417-MHz ATV signal gave a view of the Earth all the way up to 53 miles--almost 280,000 feet, before dropping back to hit the dry lake bed floor. The video package survived the impact and helped him home in on the signal as the package lay at the crash site, seven miles from the launch site. The transmitter consisted of a FM ATV exciter--originally designed by Mike at his company, Microtek, for Part 15 license-free use--driving a homebrew 1-W amplifier.





## A Holiday Poem

By Steve Adell, KF2TI

Twas the night before Christmas,  
And all through two-meters,  
Not a signal was keying up  
Any repeaters.

The antennas reached up  
From the tower, quite high,  
To catch the weak signals  
That bounced from the sky.

The children, Tech-Pluses,  
Took their HT's to bed,  
And dreamed of the day  
They'd be Extras, instead.

Mom put on her headphones,  
I plugged in the key,  
And we tuned 40 meters  
For that rare ZK3.

When the meter was pegged  
by a signal with power.  
It smoked a small diode,  
and, I swear, shook the tower.

Mom yanked off her phones,  
And with all she could muster  
Logged a spot of the signal  
On the DX PacketCluster,

While I ran to the window  
And peered up at the sky,  
To see what could generate  
RF that high.

It was way in the distance,  
But the moon made it gleam -  
A flying sleigh, with an  
Eight element beam,

And a little old driver  
who looked slightly mean.  
So I thought for a moment,  
That it might be Wayne Green.

But no, it was Santa  
The Santa of Hams.  
On a mission, this Christmas  
To clean up the bands.

He circled the tower,  
Then stopped in his track,

And he slid down the coax  
Right into the shack.

While Mom and I hid  
Behind stacks of CQ,  
This Santa of hamming  
Knew just what to do.

He cleared off the shack desk  
Of paper and parts,  
And filled out all my late QSLs  
For a start.

He ran copper braid,  
Took a steel rod and pounded  
It into the earth, till  
The station was grounded.

He tightened loose fittings,  
Resoldered connections,  
Cranked down modulation,  
Installed lightning protection.

He neutralized tubes  
In my linear amp...  
(Never worked right before --  
Now it works like a champ).

A new, low-pass filter  
Cleaned up the TV,  
He corrected the settings  
In my TNC.

He repaired the computer  
That would not compute,  
And he backed up the hard drive  
And got it to boot.

Then, he reached really deep  
In the bag that he brought,  
And he pulled out a big box,  
"A new rig?" I thought!

"A new Kenwood? An Icom?  
A Yaesu, for me?!"  
(If he thought I'd been bad  
it might be QRP!)

Yes! The Ultimate Station!  
How could I deserve this?  
Could it be all those hours  
that I worked Public Service?

He hooked it all up  
And in record time, quickly  
Worked 100 countries,  
All down on 160.

I should have been happy,  
It was my call he sent,  
But the cards and the postage  
Will cost two month's rent!

He made final adjustments,  
And left a card by the key:  
"To Gary, from Santa Claus.  
Seventy-Three."

Then he grabbed his HT,  
Looked me straight in the eye,  
Punched a code on the pad,  
And was gone - no good bye.

I ran back to the station,  
And the pile-up was big,  
But a card from St. Nick  
Would be worth my new rig.

Oh, too late, for his final  
came over the air.  
It was copied all over.  
It was heard everywhere.

The Ham's Santa exclaimed  
What a ham might expect,  
"Merry Christmas to all,  
And to all, good DX."

Submitted by Johnny Fearon,  
W4WKP from the Ham-L mailing  
list on the internet.





## The President's Pen

(Continued from page 1)

needed. We fixed up Snellville so that we have security and have a viable packet link on there at this time. We took towers down and put them up. We worked with boy scouts of large numbers who will not forget ham radio. We got a semi permanent meeting place to hang our hats for a change. We had a bang up field day event. We demonstrated radio to the public on more than one occasion. We had a fantastic picnic at Fort Yargo State Park. We covered security for the ARC hamfest in downtown Atlanta. We lost a lot of members at renewal time. We gained a lot of new members the rest of the year. We covered many a town and city parade with communications. We covered a bike race with communications. We taught classes on ham radio. We conducted exams so that those who passed could get a license. We put a packet DX cluster on the air. We conducted Morse code sessions on the repeater faithfully every Tuesday evening. We conducted a weekly net faithfully. We put out a newsletter each month without fail. WE WERE ACTIVE.

It took a lot of people to make all the activities work and it is to those individuals that I give all the credit to as they were the back bone of the club. Thanks guys and gals

for making this year a very rewarding experience for me.

One of our very active members took sick recently and it just proves that none of us are immune from sickness no matter how macho we feel. This particular member has been a good will ambassador for the club and we are so glad that he is doing much better at this writing. I am speaking of Johnny Fearon, W4WKP and Johnny, we all wish you a speedy recovery from your condition.

We set a record for attendance at our November meeting with a whopping 103 turning out for what was one of the year's best programs on weather watching. I am sure the details are elsewhere in this issue. We also had a bunch of new members voted in and I want to welcome them again at this time and hope their stay with us is long lived.

This is the time of the year when we all including myself start yearning for something new in the way of a radio or two, You notice I said two and that is because none of us are ever satisfied with just one radio. Of course if we wished for the sunspot cycle to hurry up and give us some wide open band conditions, we would not need but only one good radio and a wet noodle to hook up to. Myself, I wish they would bring back the fix it yourself kind which some of you newer hams don't know about but wish you did. There is something about buying a new piece of equipment like I used to do and bring it home

with my heart racing in anticipation of what this thing was going to look like on the inside as soon as I got it home. The thrill of opening up the piece no matter what it was and looking around inside to see how spotless everything was. Not a bit of dust to be found anywhere and the components all new and shiny and you could see the part numbers clear as a bell. Breaks out the well supplied owners/service manual and follow the circuitry around to familiarize yourself with the layout so that later on when it broke down you could find your way around the circuitry quicker. The manufacturers of the equipment encouraged your fixing their product and many a time were called by hams like myself inquiring about a glitch in the equipment that they would clear up with just one phone call. When the American manufacturers saw the end in site for their amateur radio markets and turned it all over to the imports. It was a sad day in ham radio because the relationships between amateur and manufacturer ceased to exist and profit margins were more important to them than customer satisfaction. No more would you receive a free owners/service manual, the service manual became another tool for profits so they stopped giving that away with the purchase instead they started charging out of site prices for something that you should receive with the purchase free. The manufacturers quickly discouraged the fix it yourselfer

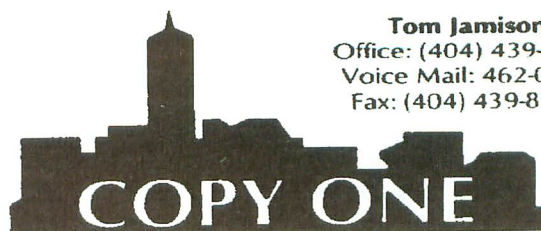
(Continued on page 9)

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## The President's Pen

(Continued from page 8)

and what you see today is the end result of that effort. Not only did they discourage the fix it yourself, they discouraged the mind of amateur radio operators to think for themselves. They put automated transceivers on the market that only they can fix at very high repair prices. Our hobby is unique in this one respect, we want to get into circuits and fix them when they break down it is part of being a ham radio operator. It is not just a hobby for chatting with your ham friend on the air. At least that is the way it used to be.

So when you go to the toy store to see the new equipment nowadays, take a moment to reflect about what it inside this thing your looking at. If you only look at the front with all it's knobs and fancy looking meters and such, you are missing a lot of what used to be an attraction to most amateurs in my days. Better than going to a toy store and buying a new piece of equipment, give some serious thought to purchasing a piece of used old amateur radio equipment that has a good owners/service manual with it and have a ball. I wish every one of you a safe and happy holiday season. I think many of us are more fortunate than others in that we have little wants

and needs. We fail to understand how it is to be less fortunate than we are. The truth is that many poor souls will not have a family to be with this season and others will never feel the goodness in receiving a gift from someone who cares. We all can not solve the world of problems out in the real world but we can be kind to our neighbor and save a smile for that person we just passed today.

I am looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Christmas party. It will be a fun filled evening for sure. I know you all have busy schedules, but won't you please find the time for this festive occasion? My understanding of it is that we all kind of arrive at the quarterback room at the Falcon Inn starting at 7.30 PM. The room is said to have private access by us and Kevin McClure, KF4HFN who part times as a disc jockey, has graciously donated his services and equipment to our party for background music and dancing. We will have the honor of presenting our yearly GARS ham of the year award out to some lucky GARS member along with service awards. It looks to be a very fine evening of entertainment.

73  
Howie, W4NVF



## GARS Grows Again!

Nineteen new members were voted in at the June meeting.

AD4UU - Dave Livesay  
KC4ZKT - George May  
KD4OTB - Jim Plofehan  
KE4TVB - John Swarner  
KF4CYW - Ken Law  
KF4EVD - Carl McDaniel  
KF4MWI - Brain Siegmund  
KF4MZB - Lou Spada  
KF4MZI - Michael Westberry  
KF4MZK - Josh Rhinehart  
KF4MZM - Bessie Hanson  
KF4NBC - Brain Frey  
KF4NBD - Jeff Culchins  
KF4NBE - Tom Busching  
KF4NOH - Darren Perlono  
KI4RJ - Clark Cregger  
NZ3I - Tad Danley  
WA4DSY - Dale Heatherington  
WB4KRN - John Bachtel

Please welcome the new members to the club in person and on the **GARS** repeaters.

This brings the **GARS** membership to 278 members.



### Work GARS

**REPEATERS**  
2-Meter 147.075 MHz <sup>+600</sup>  
PL 82.5  
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PL 156.7

**TELEPHONE BBS**  
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**6-METER BEACON**  
WA4IOB 6 Meter Beacon at  
50.075 MHz

**PACKET**  
WD4JXR-6 / SNELLV Packet  
Node/Digipeater 145.03 MHz

**SWAP, WANTED and SELL NET**  
Tuesdays at 8:00PM on the  
GARS 2m Repeater.

**MORSE CODE PRACTICE**  
An interactive Morse Code practice session  
follows the 8:00PM Tuesday night net on  
the GARS 2m repeater.

**PACKET RADIO USERS NET**  
Wednesdays at 8:00 PM on the GARS  
2m Repeater.





## GARS Ham Of The Month Mark Kozma, KD3GC

(Continued from page 1)

discharge from the service in 1986, Mark got his first license as KA3QND. As a matter of fact, Mark got his license before he even had any equipment. For \$180, Mark bought his first station...a Heathkit SB-401 transmitter, a SB-301 receiver and a Hygain vertical. Marks' first contact was a memorable one. In his words, he was "petrified"! I remember those days - calling CQ and wondering what to do next if someone actually answered you! He worked a station in New Hampshire and worked the same guy over two months later.

In December 1988, Mark moved to Atlanta.

Mark and his wife, Wendy, have been married for 15 years and they have three children - two girls and one boy. He says his 5-year-old son is beginning to show some interest in ham radio. Mark and his family live about five miles south of Lawrenceville in Grayson.

Mark's equipment now consists of a Heathkit SB-102 linear driving a Heathkit HW-101, a Mosley TA33 Jr. and a "zep" for low band operation. He also has an Alinco DJ-180 2 meter handheld

and a mag mount for mobile operation. Marks' transmitter is not run "barefoot" and neither does his business customers. Mark is in retail footwear as a manager, and supplies all area K-Marts with footwear. Man, that pun was a real reach wasn't it!

Ten meters is Mark's favorite band. He likes to work phone and says that his CW needs some improvement. As one of his goals for 1997, Mark plans on improving his CW skills. Although not very active on the HF bands, Mark is a regular check in to the Tuesday night **GARS** Net.

Mark joined **GARS** in 1989, shortly after moving to Atlanta. His membership expired and in 1995 Mark got a call from Johnny, W4WKP. He rejoined the club. Mark is a "veteran" of the last two **GARS** Field Days, attending both in 1995 and 1996. From those experiences, Mark is now Field Day Chairman for 1997. Mark has some great ideas for Field Day 1997, so please offer your support. I am already committed for many hours of operation myself.

Marks' interview for Ham of the Month was a real pleasure. Mark seems to be a real "go getter", just what our club is in need of. He will be an asset to the membership. You'll find Mark on the **GARS** machine a good bit and I hope you'll all give him a call and make him welcome in the club.

I would like to wish you all a joyous and safe Holiday Season and remind you to stay away from

power lines when doing your antenna work in the coming year. The upcoming year will surely be a great one for our club. I see a lot of good things for our organization in 1997. I look forward to another year of Ham of the Month features and the opportunities to help **GARS** in any way I can. See you next month and best 73.

Karl  
N4JON



### Random Ramblings

"In the beginning the Universe was created. This has made a lot of people very angry and been widely regarded as a bad move."

>>> Douglas Adams

"Communism doesn't work because people like to own stuff."

>>> Frank Zappa

"Eternal nothingness is fine if you happen to be dressed for it."

>>> Woody Allen

"Artificial Intelligence is no match for natural stupidity."

>>> Unknown

"People are more violently opposed to fur than leather because it's safer to harass rich women than motorcycle gangs."

>>> Unknown

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## Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

### First Tuesday

#### Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers

Old Hickory House, 5490 Chamblee-Dunwoody Rd, Dunwoody. Dutch dinner is at 6:30PM, followed by meeting. Talk In -145.410(-)

### First Wednesday

#### HamWatch

Alpha Soda Restaurant, Haynes Bridge Road, Alpharetta, Dinner at 6:30PM. Meeting at 7:30PM

### First Thursday

#### N.E. Ga ARC

Jefferson Civic Center, off Memorial Dr. toward Winder from Jefferson. Meeting is at 6:30PM. Talk In - 147.225(+)

#### Atlanta Radio Club

Georgia Power Federal Credit Union, 4900 Ashford Dunwoody Road, 1 Mile North of Perimeter Mall. Meeting is at 7:30PM Talk In -146.820(-)

### Second Wednesday

#### North Fulton Radio League

Alpha Soda Restaurant, Haynes Bridge Road, Alpharetta, Dinner at 6:30PM. Meeting at 7:30PM Talk In - 145.47(-)

### Second Thursday

#### Alford Memorial Radio Club

Elks Lodge on Memorial Drive. Dinner at 6:00PM Meeting at 7:30PM. Talk In - 146.760(-)

### Second Saturday

#### East Atlanta LAN

Scott Blvd Baptist Church in Decatur. Meeting is at 10:00AM. Talk In - 145.410(-)

### 3rd THURSDAY

#### Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Gwinnett Justice And Administrative Center in Lawrenceville. Meeting begins at 7:30 in the main auditorium Talk In-147.075(+)

Visit **GARS** On The World Wide Web

<http://www.gars.org>

Up to date information on club activities,  
officers, committees, announcements,  
**THE GARZETTE** Online, and much more.

Email suggestions for additions to  
[gtomlin@mindspring.com](mailto:gtomlin@mindspring.com) or [ichapman@intergate.net](mailto:ichapman@intergate.net)

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# THE GARZETTE

DECEMBER, 96

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
P.O. Box 88  
Lilburn, GA 30226



The December GARS meeting will be our annual Holiday Party on Friday, December 21 at the Falcon Inn in Suwanee. Contact Suzanne Farr for further information.

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THE GARZETTE

DECEMBER, 96

## Metro Atlanta Test Sessions

**GARS** Publishes Metro Area VE/VEC Exam Schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed

1st Sunday - 2:00PM - W5YI VEC  
Duane Reynolds, WB2YAD - 338-8791  
Jackson EMC, 461 Swanson Road,  
Lawrenceville

1st Monday - 7:30PM - ARRL VEC  
Delaine McCarthy, KM4FV - 993-9758  
St. Ann Catholic Church - 4905 Roswell  
Rd - Marietta

1st Saturday - 9:00AM  
George White, KN4NG 361-6850  
Clayton Co. Emergency Mgmt. Bldg.  
7496 N. McDonough St. - Jonesboro

2nd Sundays - 3:00PM  
Mike Mahaffey, AD4QB - 974-7710  
First Presbyterian Church,  
183 West Main Street, Cartersville

2nd Tuesday - 7:00PM  
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA 498-7759  
Walton EMC  
3645 Lenora Church Rd, Snellville

2nd Saturday - 8:30AM - CA VEC  
Hal Martin, KI4RD - 978-9160  
Stone Mountain Methodist Church  
5312 West Mountain St., Stone Mtn.

3rd Saturdays - 9:00AM - CA VEC  
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ - 955-3171  
Marietta First United Methodist Church  
56 Whitlock Ave, Room 305

4th Sunday- 2:30PM - ARRL VEC  
Steve Schmidt, KR4DL - 242-6142  
Episcopal Church of the Atonement  
Highpoint Rd, Atlanta

4th Tuesday - 7:00PM ARRL VEC  
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK - 942-6466  
United Way Service Center  
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville, GA

4th Friday - 7:00PM  
**GARS W5YI-VEC**  
**Howie Gould, W4NVF 921-8362**  
**St. John Neumann Church**  
**801 Tom Smith Rd, off Five Forks**  
**Trickum Rd, Lilburn**

## Metro Area Nets And Roundtables

Mon 147.21+	8:00PM	Conyers ARES Net t-162.2
Mon 145.45-	8:00PM	ARES Net (Decatur)
Mon 145.47-	8:00PM	North Fulton ARL Net
Mon 145.41-	8:30PM	MATPARC Net
Mon 3.975	8:00PM	Swap Net
Tue 147.075+	8:00PM	<b>GARS Weekly Net</b>
Tue 147.075+	9:00PM	<b>GARS CW Practice</b>
Tue 145.47-	10:30PM	Insomniac Net
Wed 147.075+	8:00PM	<b>GARS Packet Net</b>
Wed 145.41-	8:00PM	Chapter 49, QCWA Net
Wed 146.67-	9:00PM	LARC Net
Wed 146.655-	9:00PM	BSRG Net t-188.8
Thu 146.88-	8:00PM	Kennahoochie ARC
Thu 147.225+	8:00PM	NE Ga ARC
Thu 147.15	8:00PM	simplex
Thu 145.41-	9:30PM	AMSAT
Thu Cable57	9:30PM	Amateur Television, ATV
Fri 3.898	8:00PM	GA Traders Net
Fri 146.76-	Midnight	Turnip Truck Net t-107.2
Sat 7.275	8:00AM	Swap Net
Sat 3.857	9:00AM	Chapter 49, QCWA Net
Sat 146.76-	Midnight	Turnip Truck Net t-107.2
Sun 147.075+	8:00PM	<b>Gwinnett ARES Net</b>
Sun 146.82-	8:00PM	ARC Net
Sun 146.76-	7:00PM	Roundtable AMRC t-107.2
Sun 7.275	9:00AM	GA Traders Net
Sun 3.983	5:00PM	GA ARES
Daily 146.76-	Noon	Brown Bag Net t-107.2
Daily 146.88-	11:00PM	Late Nite Owl Net
Daily 146.79-	8:00PM	Sassafrass Mtn.
Daily 3.975	6:00PM	WX & Skywarn

This is a "living list", meaning it is constantly changing. If you know of additions or changes to it please contact the Editor.